

Table 4. Pearson's correlation coefficient (r) between antioxidant activities of fractions from mango Ataulfo and bioactive compounds contents.

	ABTS	FRAP	ORAC
Ascorbic acid	0.745 0.021	0.813 0.008	0.756 0.018
β-carotene	0.705 0.034	0.764 0.017	0.692 0.039
Mangiferin	0.886 0.001	0.832 0.005	0.895 0.001
Quercetin	0.786 0.012	0.698 0.037	0.783 0.013
Apigenin glucoside	0.847 0.004	0.760 0.017	0.830 0.006
Quercetin 3-O-rhamnoside	-0.067 0.863	-0.191 0.623	-0.083 0.831
Luteolin 7-O-glucoside	0.780 0.013	0.694 0.038	0.774 0.014
Ferulic acid	0.998 0.00	0.970 0.00	0.992 0.00
Quinic acid	0.993 0.00	0.965 0.00	0.984 0.00
Galic acid	0.938 0.00	0.953 0.00	0.990 0.00
Coumaric acid	0.909 0.00	0.919 0.00	0.960 0.00

(TE)= Trolox equivalent, ABTS (free radical of 2,2'-azinobis-(3-ethylbenzothiazoline-6 sulfonic acid); FRAP (ferric reducing ability of plasma); ORAC (oxygen radical absorbance capacity).

DISCUSSION

The present research focused on comparing the nutraceutical potential of three mango Ataulfo by-products based on their nutritional and phytochemical profiles and *in vitro* antioxidant activity. Mango Ataulfo fruit is a good source of macro and micronutrients like other fruits; regular consumption can provide significant requirements of vitamins, minerals, dietary fiber, energy, and a minor supply of protein and fat. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recommends a daily vitamin C value of 90 mg for adults; thus, 10 g of mango Ataulfo pulp or peel provides 74% and 100 % of vitamin C, respectively [40].

Excessive sugar consumption is associated with obesity, metabolic disorders and chronic degenerative

diseases. The WHO recommends limiting the intake of foods with a high content of available sugars to prevent sugar intake from exceeding 10% of total energy intake [41]. The high sugar content in mango pulp makes its use limited in nutritional programs, however, precisely the proven beneficial effects of mango consumption in the prevention of metabolic disorders, diabetes and cardiovascular diseases seem to contradict this paradigm. There is controversy between those who propose a greater consumption of fruits and those who suggest limiting the consumption of fruits rich in fructose such as mango, since fructose has been associated with a higher incidence of diseases such as hepatic steatosis, cardiovascular diseases and cancer [42].

On the other hand, the combination of dietary fiber and available sugars characteristic of fruits such as mango, confers it a low glycemic index. The higher proportion of dietary fiber and lower glycemic index is related to a decrease in molecular markers of inflammation [43]. Mango peel had a better nutritional profile than the pulp, as it contains fewer available sugars and significantly higher dietary fiber content, suggesting that it has a lower glycemic index. Compared to pulp, mango peel also contained considerably higher amounts of all bioactive compounds evaluated (vitamin C, provitamin A, phenolic acids, flavonoids and mangiferin).

The beneficial properties of mango are due to the abundance of phytochemicals with structures that promote ROS scavenging and that intervene positively in reducing or inhibiting the production of proinflammatory cytokine [14-15,23]. Therefore, it would be expected that the differences in the composition of the mango fractions evaluated could exert different biological functionalities depending on the natural combination of bioactive compounds they contain; future research work could be oriented in that direction.

The study of the chemical composition of mango peel has gained relevance in recent years because it is an abundant source of bioactive compounds wasted during industrial mango processing. The comparison of Ataulfo, Tommy Atkins, and Keitt mango peels highlights the Ataulfo cultivar as the most prominent source of dietary fiber and total phenolics [44]. The content of flavonoids and phenolic acids in the peel of Ataulfo mango was also higher than that of Haden, Manila, and Panamanian mango [27].

Despite the large number of studies on the beneficial effects of mango bioactive compounds, a recent and extensive systematic review states that there is not enough scientific evidence to support that mango consumption is effective as an antidiabetic in humans; it also suggests that the effect of the different varieties of mango used in the investigations; differences in

nutritional composition and bioactive compounds are likely to contribute to the discrepancy on results [45].

Mango peel fiber is a dietary fiber concentrate derived from the solvent extraction of soluble components. The peel fiber isolated from mangoes represents a good quality source of dietary fiber, considering the balance in the proportion of soluble and insoluble fiber that characterizes it. This by-product of mango could be useful to enrich low-fiber foods and increase their technological and nutraceutical functionality [30]. Adequate consumption of dietary fiber is associated with decreased blood cholesterol, lower risk of CVD, and a healthier gut microbiota [5,46].

The differences in the composition of the various mango cultivars or the different parts of the mango fruit become relevant when used in experiments to observe some physiological effects. When a certain portion of mango pulp or peel is established in an experiment, the dose of the components that will impact the study model is based. In the same way, the quantification of nutritional and bioactive compounds of the different parts of the Ataulfo mango (pulp, peel, and peel fiber) will allow subsequent interventional research to determine doses of bioactive compounds.

ABTS, ORAC, and FRAP antioxidant capacity tests are considered biologically relevant and are widely used, as they collectively assess hydrophilic, lipophilic, and reducing potential in both foodstuffs and biological systems under physiological conditions. The results of the three antioxidant capacity tests did not indicate a predominant antioxidant mechanism in the different Ataulfo mango products. This is possibly due to interactions between the different antioxidants and potent reducing compounds in Ataulfo mango products. In this sense, the antioxidant activity and the *in vitro* results confirmed the superior potential of the functionality of mango peel with respect to mango pulp and peel fiber. These results confirm those previously reported when compared nine mango varieties [47]. The

results of the correlation between antioxidant capacity and the different bioactive compounds are also consistent with those reported for mango peel and kernel [28]. We agree with these authors that mango peel is an ideal ingredient to be used in the preparation of functional foods that help improve overall health. In this regard, work has been done adding mango peel powder to the preparation of some processed foods such as bread and yogurt [48-49].

Mango peel also represents an important source for the extraction of specific compounds such as mangiferin. Mangiferin is perhaps the mango component with the most research regarding extraction and purification methods [21,50], therapeutic effects [51-52], mechanisms of action [53,54] and pharmaceutical forms [24-25,55]. Another compound abundant in mango peel is quercetin, which could be explored as a nutraceutical, since it is the most abundant flavonoid in mango peel and its remarkable antioxidant capacity has been widely proven on inflammatory and metabolic disorders [56-57]. However, further studies are required to support the requirements to be considered as a functional food ingredient [58].

In summary, the results of this work showed that mango Ataulfo peel is a promising combination of high diversity and quantity of bioactive compounds like dietary fiber, vitamins, and phytochemicals, all of which have proved to have beneficial health functionalities; the mango Ataulfo pulp, on the other hand, offers both bioactive compounds and sugars that could contribute to raising the sensory and nutraceutical quality of foods. Nutritional and chemical characterization allowed us to know the proportion of the different compounds in the natural state of each part of the mango fruit.

CONCLUSIONS

The composition of mango peel offers a rich combination of mangiferin, flavonoids, phenolic acids, vitamin C, provitamin A, and dietary fiber, all of them associated

with the prevention of diseases related to inflammation and oxidative stress. These results support the exceptional nutraceutical potential of mango peel due to its superior antioxidant capacity.

Furthermore, its high dietary fiber content suggests potential health benefits due to the well-known properties of dietary fiber to stimulate the growth of beneficial gut bacteria, regulate blood sugar levels and reduce cholesterol.

It is highly recommended to conduct some *in vivo* studies in the near future to demonstrate whether the consumption of these three different mango by-products will actually improve the symptoms of diseases related to inflammation and oxidative stress, according to their respective nutritional and nutraceutical composition and antioxidant capacity.

Abbreviations: ROS: reactive oxygen species; HPLC: High performance liquid chromatography; TEAC: Trolox Equivalent Antioxidant Capacity; FRAP: Ferric Reducing Antioxidant Power; MPF: peel isolated fiber.

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